

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1076
By Burks

A RESOLUTION to create a special joint committee to study the transfer of the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) of the Department of Safety to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation.

WHEREAS, the Criminal Investigation Division of the Tennessee Department of Safety is currently responsible for the investigation and prosecution of violations of Tennessee's theft law as it pertains to auto theft; this includes covert and overt investigations involving trafficking in stolen auto parts, auto theft, Title and Fraud violations, vehicle insurance fraud, as well as other violations of the Tennessee Code Annotated; and

WHEREAS, the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) assists the uniform division of the Tennessee Highway Patrol and the Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT) in the investigation of vehicular homicides, vehicular assaults, and other related crimes; and

WHEREAS, the unit also conducts background investigations of prospective Department of Safety employees; provides assistance to other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies when requested; and conducts specialized training for other law enforcement agencies upon request; and

WHEREAS, in January of 1999, Driver License Fraud was transferred to the CID, resulting in a marked increase in the number of fraud investigations and prosecutions; the division is also responsible for the inspection of salvage vehicles in the titling process; and

WHEREAS, in light of the recently released Kroll Report that reviewed the functions and management of the Tennessee Department of Safety, it is appropriate to consider a thorough review of the duties, responsibilities and operation of the unit for the benefit of all Tennesseans; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that there is hereby created a special joint committee to study the transfer of the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) of the Department of Safety to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, including, but not limited to, a review of the functions of the Criminal Investigation Division.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee shall examine the role of the Criminal Investigation Division, as outlined in the Report on Targeted Operational and Management Review of the Tennessee Highway Patrol by Kroll Government Services, with consideration given as to broadening the duties of the CID to include investigations of Tennessee Highway Patrol enforcement matters, which could include narcotics interdiction, license and registration fraud, identify theft, and vehicular assault and vehicular homicide investigations, as well as providing a more coordinated effort on homeland security issues and assistance to local law enforcement pursuant to any such request.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee shall consist of three (3) members of the House of Representatives and three (3) members of the Senate, to be appointed by the respective speakers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all appropriate state agencies shall provide assistance to the special joint committee upon request of the chair.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all legislative members of the special joint committee who are duly elected members of the General Assembly shall remain members of such committee until the committee reports its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the special joint committee shall be convened by the member with the most years of continuous service in the General Assembly, and at its first meeting shall elect a chair, vice-chair, and such other officers the committee deems necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the special committee shall timely report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the One Hundred Fifth General Assembly no later than January 1, 2007, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.

